

females) in six litters, including three heterozygous normal coloured female cubs. The first litter was born on May 12, 1981 and the sixth litter on April 23, 1990.

According to Roychoudhury *et al.* (1989), the two white tigresses Mohini and Chameli born at Govindgarh Palace, Rewa on October 30, 1958, and March 24, 1962, died at Washington Zoo (U.S.A.) on April 6, 1979, and at Bristol Zoo (England) on August 23, 1982, at the age of 20 years, 5 months, 7 days and 20 years and 5 months respectively. A female Bengal tiger at the New York Zoological Park died at the age of 20 years, 7 months and 2 days (Crandall, 1965). A tigress of Alipore Zoological Gardens, Calcutta lived for 20 years and 3 months (Das, 1983). Under zoo conditions, the maximum longevity of tigers is 20 years, an age which is probably not exceeded in the wild (Schaller, 1967). The estimated life span of the tiger is about 20 years (Prater, 1971). Tigers have lived in captivity for 12 to 19 years (Walker *et al.*, 1964).

Flower (1931) says that there appears to be no definite record of a tiger living to 20 years and the greatest longevity listed by him is that of a Siberian tiger that lived for 19 years in the

Cologne Zoological Gardens. A tigress had lived for 19 years in the Zoological Gardens, Thrissur (Nair, 1957). A tiger of Nandankanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar died at the age of 18 years, 6 months and 10 days (Acharjyo and Patnaik, 1987).

Diana-Subhra's longevity of 21 years, 8 months and 22 days in this Park appears to be the longest so far recorded for this species in captivity.

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L.N. ACHARJYO
House No. M-71,
Housing Board Colony,
Baramunda,
Bhubaneswar 751 003
Orissa, India.

B.C. PRUSTY
Nandankanan Zoological Park
Mayur Bhavan, Janapath,
Saheednagar, Bhubaneswar 751 007,
Orissa, India.
S.K. PATNAIK
7, Saheednagar,
Bhubaneswar 751 007,
Orissa, India.

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5. SIGHTING OF BARKING DEER (*MUNTIACUS MUNTJAC*) IN KALAKAD-MUNDANTHURAI TIGER RESERVE, TAMIL NADU

As part of our biodiversity studies, we were surveying the flora and fauna on the Mundanthurai Plateau, part of Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger

Reserve in Tirunelveli dist., Tamil Nadu. On October 15, 1997, the second day of our field work, one of us (JR), after completing sampling at three

points for quantifying vegetation, moved on to the next point. Just near the fourth point, the sound of an animal running and at the same time one of our assistants shouting *Khaleyaad* (barking deer in Tamil) was heard. What one of us (JR) saw was a reddish brown deer, smaller in size, and somewhat different from a sambar or a spotted deer. Since it had antlers we knew it was a male. Our assistants showed us the place where it had been resting. It was under a *Grewia hirsuta* tree with sparse grass. We went to that site, had a closer look and found some hairs, which we collected and sent to the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun, for identification.

Back at the field station, we checked THE BOOK OF INDIAN ANIMALS (Prater 1971, p. 324). Our opinion that it could be a barking deer was confirmed. In addition, the hair sample also identified it a barking deer. It was really surprising to have seen a barking deer at Mundanthurai, as there have been no earlier records of its presence. Dr. A.J.T. Johnsingh, who has been working in this area for almost 30 years has not seen or even heard this deer (pers. comm). In addition, Dr. S.F. Wesley Sunderraj and one of us (JJ) have been working in this area since 1984, and have never seen or heard this deer before. In the past two years in KMTR, we have not heard or seen this deer. Our assistants, local Kanni tribals, say that they have seen this deer thrice near Kodamadi, beyond Servalar dam, while repairing the road in 1992.

Mundanthurai plateau, covering an area of c. 60 sq. km, retains mainly dry deciduous and open scrub forest with grass patches. The altitude is 204 m above msl. The animal was sighted near Tambraparni river adjacent to the Deer Valley.

In addition, one of us (JJ) sighted a female and J. Ronald sighted three, two adults (sex unidentified) and one yearling barking deer in the Kadayam range in the northwestern part of the Reserve.

Our sighting is the first of this deer on Mundanthurai plateau. We suspect that barking deer could have moved in from the Kodayam range which lies further northwest of the Reserve. More sightings of barking deer are needed to confirm the new addition of this ungulate species to the fauna of the Reserve.

July 27, 1999

JAYANTIRAY

JUSTUS JOSHUA*

J. RONALD

Wildlife Institute of India
P.O. Box # 18, Chandrabani,
Dehra Dun 248 001,
Uttar Pradesh,
India.

*Present Address:
Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology
Patwadi Naka,
Bhuj (Kachchh) 370 001,
Gujarat,
India.

6. TYPE SPECIMENS OF MAMMALS IN THE COLLECTIONS OF THE BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The mammalian type specimens present in the collections of the Bombay Natural History Society as on June '99 are included. The Society has a collection of 18,500 mammal skins and skulls. Most of the specimens were collected during the Mammal Survey of India undertaken by the Society from 1911 to 1928. The present note deals with the type specimens in the collections. The collection data has been transcribed from the labels.

CHIROPTERA

PTEROPODIDAE

PTEROPODINAE

Cynopterus sphinx gangeticus Andersen,
1910

Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 6: 623

Type: BNHM 1651, *cotypè*, juvenile female, from "Chanda" (in Maharashtra, western India) at about 500 ft.